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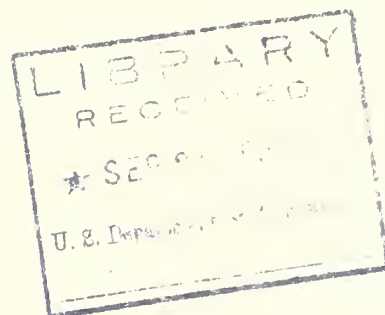
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STEM RUST AND BARBERRY NEWS

Issued by  
Office of Barberry Eradication



Volume I

September 25, 1930

Number 10

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Bureau of Plant Industry  
U. S. Department of Agriculture

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STEM RUST DISCUSSED AT CAMBRIDGE, ENGLAND

At the International Botanical Congress at Cambridge, one afternoon was devoted to a discussion of the dissemination of cereal rusts. Definite evidence was adduced to show that in the British Isles there is stem rust only near barberries; Danish representatives at the Congress were more convinced than ever that the stem rust problem in Denmark had been solved by eradicating barberries entirely; and representatives of some of the central European countries stated also that destructive epidemics of stem rust in their countries occurred only near barberries. It must be recognized, however, that the topographic conditions, crop conditions, and air movement are different in western Europe than in some of the North-Central States of our country. The condition in Europe seems to be more nearly comparable with that of the soft red winter wheat States, and that in the Plains of the United States more nearly comparable with that in Russia.

E. C. Stakman,  
University Farm.

September 17, 1930.

EPIDEMIOLOGY

Physiologic forms of oat stem rust that have been identified so far this year, according to Doctor Cottor, are the same as those found during the past several years, i.e., forms 2 and 5. Identification of forms in all collections obtained, however, has not been completed.

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Dr. E. C. Stakman has asked that the following letter be published in the Stem Rust and Barberry News:

"During my absence, as well as on my return, I was very much gratified to find that the epidemiology studies had progressed in a most satisfactory way and that the factors involved in the development of rust this year had been analyzed very carefully and accurately. The epidemiology force is very much indebted to the men in charge of local offices who cooperated in contributing to so effective a study of the problem. We are asking them for a certain amount of cooperation this winter, and if they can cooperate with us as they have in the past we will appreciate it."

Current G. A. O. Decisions

(A-31901)

9 Comp. Gen. 519

**ADVERTISING--BIDS--AUTOMOBILE SPECIFICATIONS--NONESSENTIAL FEATURES.**

For ordinary uses all makes and grades of automobiles are for consideration in determining which will best meet the needs of the service and bids should be requested on specifications drawn, not by designation of a particular make, but should show only such details as to construction in performance requirements as can satisfactorily be shown to be necessary to meet the requirements of the service.

Nonessential features, such as shock absorbers, instead of some other similar devices, and nonshatterable glass in the windshield, instead of some other glass, should not be made controlling if the work reasonably can be performed with automobiles not having such features or equipment; that is, the procedure should not be adopted of specifying as controlling a particular nonessential feature of an automobile, such as shatter-proof glass, shock absorbers, style of wheels, etc., thereby excluding bidders that do not offer the particular feature or causing such bidders to change their models so as to embrace such features, thereby increasing the cost and preventing real competition.

(A-31948)

9 Comp. Gen. 523

**PURCHASES--PRIOR YEAR APPROPRIATIONS.**

The provisions of the act of June 5, 1920, 41 Stat. 975, that all

orders or contracts for the manufacture of material placed with Government-owned establishments shall be considered as obligations in the same manner as provided for similar orders placed with commercial manufacturers, and paid under appropriations available when the order is placed, do not authorize charging prior year appropriations for paint and lumber purchased in the fiscal year 1930 for doing repair work on arsenal buildings administratively authorized in the fiscal year 1929.

(A-32125)

9 Comp. Gen. 514

LEAVES OF ABSENCE WITHOUT PAY--SATURDAY AFTERNOONS

In the absence of a regulation, a field employee of the Civil Service Commission who is granted leave without pay should be charged a full day for Saturday regardless of the number of hours he would have been required to work if he had not been on leave.

(A-31949)

9 Comp. Gen. 525

CONTRACTS--PRIOR YEAR APPROPRIATIONS

The provisions of the act of June 5, 1920, 41 Stat. 975, that all orders or contracts for the manufacture of material placed with Government-owned establishments shall be considered as obligations in the same manner as provided for similar orders placed with commercial manufacturers, and paid under appropriations available when the order is placed, do not authorize charging prior year appropriations with payments under a 1930 fiscal year contract for the constructions of an aviation landing field administratively authorized in the fiscal year 1928.

EASTERN REGION

Ohio - 8 East Broad Street, Columbus - Harry Atwood

At the present time three squads of four men each are doing survey work in Miami County. This county should be completed this month with the exception of the three northern townships.



Thirty-one plantings have been reported during the past two weeks in Miami County. Most of these are rural plantings. The size of the bushes indicates that they are old plantings.

Messrs. Stover and Horton have just completed the collection of data on Ohio seed and seedling experiments. In addition, they have started a new series of experiments at Maumee to determine the time of germination of barberry seeds under various environmental conditions. They have planted seed in plots in full sun, in partial shade, and in full shade, both on well drained and poorly drained soil. Some of the berries in these plots were sown on the undisturbed surface of the soil. In other plots the ground was broken up and the berries lightly raked in. A total of 72 plots were established and approximately 500 berries were planted in each plot.

Several of our field men have resigned recently. Lawrence M. Ames has gone to Cambridge where he has a fellowship in science at Harvard University. Clifford E. Garwick has gone to New Haven where he has a fellowship in Political Economy at Yale University. Gerald E. Cheadle has an assistantship in the Botany Department of Miami University, at Oxford, Ohio.

Indiana-Agricultural Experiment Station, Lafayette -  
Wayne E. Leor.

On September 16 the field force working in Bartholomew County was transferred to an area of escaped bushes in Henry County which was located as a result of a lead secured at a 4-H club camp this summer. It was originally planned to work this area next spring, however, after receiving many complaints about leaving the bushes which are loaded with berries, it was decided to destroy them. Probably two weeks will be required to complete the work in this area.

The barberry demonstration at the Indiana State Fair was very effective this year. While leads should in no sense be taken as an index to the success or failure of a demonstration or any other educational or publicity activity, many leads were secured this year.



One interesting phase of the demonstration was the frequent mention of the fact that the broadcasts on barberry eradication had been heard this summer, either over Station WOWO of Ft. Wayne or Station WFBM of Indianapolis. Since no reports on these broadcasts had been received, we were inclined to think of them as failures, as 4 talks were given over each of the stations. No less than 100 people mentioned these broadcasts while looking at the barberry demonstration at the State Fair. The usual statement was, "This is what they were discussing over the radio this summer."

Mr. McCoy, who has been engaged during the two previous years on educational work expects to start on that work not later than October 1. He plans to visit all of the high schools in each county worked, as was done last year. About one-fourth of the high schools of the State can be visited each year.

Michigan - Michigan State College, East Lansing,  
Francis B. Powers

The majority of the field men in Michigan will resign September 22. The squad working in the Upper Peninsula and a squad in Leelanau County will remain in the field until October 1. As this fall will find the lower peninsula completed, a squad on late work will be used in second survey in barberry infested areas adjoining Leelanau County, where a quantity of salt has been stored for more than a year. It has been our experience that this salt has hardened and the sacks rotted due to the dampness of the place where it was stored; therefore it does not seem advisable to purchase salt in quantities greater than will be used in a single season.

The field men are planning a banquet early in October for which George S. McIntyre, Assistant Leader, has been appointed Chairman. Each Squad leader has appointed an entertainment chairman to work up a stunt to be presented by his squad.

Illinois - Box 72, Post Office Building, Urbana,  
Robert W. Bills

Mr. Seifert, State Nursery Inspector for the Chicago area, located a 75 foot row of common barberry seedlings and reported them

to our office. Further investigation by Mr. L. R. Davis showed that the nurseryman had imported some seeds from Europe and was waiting to learn their true variety name. Many were rusted. The owner will destroy the lot. This is the second case which has come to our attention in Lake County. The other was a small nursery propagating seeds for local use.

Evidently more emphasis should be laid on close inspection of all nurseries in the State.

Another interesting discovery was made by Mr. E. G. Woods and his squad near Waukegan. In working an escaped area they found places where several bushes had been dug. Later, in surveying about some summer cottages at Gages Lake they found the plants growing at the cottages. The persons knew they had common barberry bushes and that they were not supposed to have them.

The agents returning to the university are resigning on September 19. Eight agents will remain for late work.

#### WESTERN REGION

##### Minnesota - University Farm, St. Paul - Leonard W. Melander

During the last half-month conditions for survey have been excellent. Many of the shrubs are going into dormancy and losing their leaves, making the underbrush a little more open. In addition many weeds have become mature and dried up. One of the interesting things observed by the agents while scouting in underbrush was the great variety of hosts parasitized by dodder. One of the main factors of this parasite was poplar (Populus tremuloides). In both Scott and Dakota Counties most of the time was spent on surveying woodlots and underbrush. For this reason the survey of Scott County has taken longer than anticipated. However, it will be completed this week. Within the last two weeks we have found bushes in all three counties in which we are working. In Rice County 19 large escaped bushes were found near the former location of a hedge. This was near Union Lake. Near the edge of Scott County we have escaped bushes the seed for which had come from an old location in Dakota County.

Our education and publicity work at present is centered on county fairs. We have been very fortunate in obtaining spaces this year. In fact we have had several special requests from secretaries of county fairs for demonstrations. We have been trying to select those fairs that have large numbers of 4-H club contests.

Our main field season will end on September 27. However, we intend to continue as late as possible this fall with a crew of at least ten men. The field men are planning on the annual banquet on the night of September 25. This banquet is more or less of a farewell for men who are going off the work and for a perpetuation of interest in the barberry campaign. This is distinctly to the interest of the barberry campaign, because in this State we have many former barberry field men in positions where they can give us considerable help.

Iowa - Morrill Hall, Iowa State College, Ames - D. R. Shepherd

Only 4 field agents will remain on barberry eradication work in Iowa after September 20; six men have already resigned and 12 will resign at that time. The end of this week (Sept. 20) should round out the summer's work in northwestern Iowa with the exception of Winnebago County, which is at this time practically half surveyed. The Barberry Leader plans to have the 4 men continue in Winnebago County late this fall with the hope of cleaning up this territory. The western half of the county is comparatively lightly infested so that the survey should progress quite rapidly. The work in Sioux and Humboldt Counties will be completed this week. The men working out of Lake Mills, in Winnebago County, reported a planting of 470 large fruiting bushes and 300 seedlings found growing on the railroad right-of-way at that place. This goes to show that we can expect to find barberry bushes growing in out-of-the-way places.

Assistant Leader Cassell is spending this week in Spencer at the Clay County Fair. This fair has always been a worth while place for a barberry exhibit. The men have reported that more contacts are made at this fair, which is one of the largest of the county fairs, than are made at the State Fair at Des Moines. Following the fair at Spencer, Mr. Cassell will have an exhibit at the Waterloo Dairy Cattle Congress, which is held from September 29 to October 3. The Barberry Leader will



probably be with Mr. Cassell at this place. Following this work we plan to devote considerable time to our educational activities in the schools in northwestern Iowa. We will especially stress the educational work in the counties where we have worked this summer as well as in the counties where we will probably work next year.

District No. 1 - State College Station, Fargo, North Dakota -  
G. C. Mayoue

### Montana:

Following the completion of the survey in Carbon and Yellowstone Counties where both farmstead and strip scouting yielded planted and escaped bushes, work is now being carried on in Stillwater and Fergus. It was in the survey of part of Fergus County last year that a large area of escapes was found along the Judith River. This rich farming region was settled early, so there should be good possibilities of finding more barberries in the area remaining.

On September 6 Assistant Leader Bradbury resigned to resume his work at Michigan. Ivar Twilde, an experienced squad leader, has been acting in his place since that time. There are now eight men in the field.

Montana's fair schedule closed September 13 with the Richland County fair at Sidney. This last demonstration was conducted by two experienced North Dakota men who were scouting in the western part of that State. Such an arrangement saved the Montana attendants the long travel from the previous fair at Billings.

Comments that have reached this office indicate that the fair demonstration easily held a place among the most attractive. As it has always done elsewhere, the Death Cell aroused fair-goers' curiosity, bringing them into the booth for a closer inspection of the condemned bush. Mr. Morris, who attended the Billings fair, has written the district office expressing his complete satisfaction with the display placed at that fair.

Mr. Bert Gorman, North Dakota County Agent Leader, who viewed the demonstration at Billings, came into the district office the other

day and remarked that "The demonstration was one of the cleverest that I have seen for a long time. It certainly attracted a great deal of attention."

#### North Dakota:

Burke County, found to be the resort of several old plantings, has been completed by second survey. Work is now being conducted in only three areas, with further concentration planned as the field force is reduced.

"Little Marjorie Andres, 12-year old Jamestown school girl, went out looking for plums and came back 'plumb surprised', for she found a hedge of more than twenty common barberry bushes----"

So began a news story announcing another Rust Buster's find.

It wasn't into a plum pie that Marjorie stuck her thumb--but into barberries. Nevertheless she felt that all the dessert was hers when a picture of her helping salt the bushes appeared in thirty papers throughout the State.

Then to crystallize the Rust Buster ambitions of Jamestown's thousand school children, a special window display was prepared and placed in the most conspicuous and best display window in town, that of the National Bank and Trust Company. It centered, of course, around Jamestown's first Rust Buster. A series of smaller ones with explanations traced the various steps by which she found and reported the bushes. On one side of this another panel explained the identification by waxed parts of the bushes. The third panel then dealt with the Rust Busters' Club, urging school children to join and receive full instructions with the free membership button.

In the very near future a squad of men is going to carry on an intensive survey of the immediate area.

North Dakota produced 95,416,000 bushels of spring wheat, despite a summer in which a heavy dew was a relief from the heat and drought. The Federal Statistician's estimate states that of this amount 61,682,000 bushels were spring wheat other than durum.

Wyoming

The two agents who are conducting the survey in this State attended a demonstration which was placed at the Buffalo fair and later at the State Fair at Douglas. They report that the display was well received, the Davis Bulletin Machine still holding its attraction to people.

District No. 3 - Agricultural College, Ft. Collins, Colo.

E. A. Lungren

Colorado:

Second survey is still in progress in El Paso County. Escaped Barberries have been found scattered over the hillside west of Colorado Springs. The bushes were found growing among scrub oak and other brush, making scouting slow and difficult. Recently large fruiting escaped barberries have been found along the creek up North and South Cheyenne Canyon. Many hundreds of seedlings have also been found around the bushes. Around Broadmore two large escaped areas were found which evidently came from the big hedge which was taken out at Broadmore on the original survey. On the bank of Broadmore Lake escaped barberries were growing all around the lake.

We have found barberries practically every day since the work started in El Paso County. We have treated most of the bushes found.

Western Nebraska:

Two large barberries have been found on two rural properties in Morrill County. Both bushes were infected and heavy rust infection was found on the near by wild grasses. One bush was located out in the sand hills fifteen miles northeast of Broadwater. The infection on this bush was apparently the rye strain as wild rye was heavily infected for one half mile around the bush.

Southern Wyoming:

Two rural properties were found in Platte County having four large common barberries and 156 seedlings. Infection was found on the bushes and one field of barley close by was heavily infected with rust.



Sprigs of the bushes were placed along with window display material in one of the store windows in Wheatland. Parts of the bushes were also on display in the County Agent's Office.

The people in Platte County have become very much interested in our work. Through the publicity on the findings the people are on the look out for barberries.

#### Personnel Items

Charles O. Violet, who has been making a survey of the nurseries of Ohio for rust susceptible varieties of barberries, has resigned to accept a position with the Union Stock Yards Company of Cleveland.

